

REMARKS

The Official Action of September 10, 2004 has been carefully considered and reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

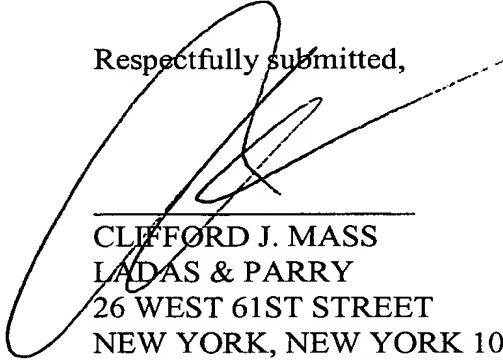
The indication that claims 31, 32, 34-38, 44 and 45 are allowed and that claims 26-29, 42 and 43 would be allowable, if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, has been noted with appreciation.

The recitations of claim 26 have now been incorporated into claim 24, and claim 24 and the claims depending therefrom are now respectfully believed to be in allowable form in accordance with the Examiner's comments. Similarly, claim 42 has been rewritten to include the recitations from claim 24, and claim 42 and the claims depending therefrom are now believed to be in allowable form in accordance with the Examiner's comments.

Claim 33 has been canceled thereby to render moot the rejection under 35 USC 112, first paragraph appearing at paragraph 3 of the Official Action. With respect to the prior art rejection at paragraph 4 of the Official Action, it is respectfully noted that the same was not applied against the subject matter of claim 26, which has now been incorporated into claim 24. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the amendment to the claims removes this basis for rejection.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that all rejections and objections of record have been overcome and that the application is now in allowable form. An early notice of allowance is earnestly solicited and is believed to be fully warranted.

Respectfully submitted,



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